

Memo

To: Government Administration and Elections
From: Robert J. Brothers, Jr., Executive Director
Date: March 7, 2011
Re: **SB 1010, AN ACT CONCERNING THE TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS
FROM THE DEPARTMENTS OF PUBLIC WORKS, INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY, PUBLIC SAFETY AND EDUCATION AND THE
JUDICIAL SELECTION COMMISSION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND DEPARTMENT OF
CONSTRUCTION SERVICES**

Connecticut has a rich and proud tradition as a leader in civil rights advocacy. Its initial charge in 1943, as the first state-sponsored civil rights agency, was to "investigate the possibilities of affording equal opportunity of profitable employment to all persons." We have grown well beyond that incredibly important mission to embrace non-discrimination based on race, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, disability and the many other protected classes in Connecticut.

The Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities has been, since the program's inception, the monitor of state agency affirmative action plans. SB 1010 will change that role as Sections 20 - 24 transfer affirmative action functions and responsibilities to the Department of Administrative Services.

The Commission appreciates that the Malloy administration has a new vision of how state government should be structured and run as demonstrated in Sections 20 - 24. These sections indeed include efficiencies originally suggested by CHRO and we are glad that they have been embraced in this legislation.

We would be remiss if we did not state that there is still much more that needs to be done to infuse true equity and equality throughout our state and throughout state service.

In the end, we know Governor Malloy's commitment to equality and the elimination of discrimination in all its forms, and must rely on that as he implements his vision of government in the 21st Century.